

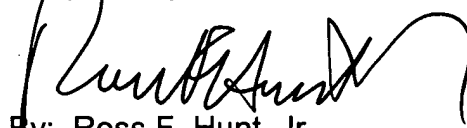
ATTACHMENT A

REMARKS

Turning to the requirement for restriction, applicant hereby elects Group I , containing claims 1-16 and 21-33. In order to expedite the prosecution, claims 17-20 have been canceled along with claim 33.

Referring to the telephone discussion with Examiner Jewel Thompson on September 26, 2003, the efforts made by the Examiner in this regard are much appreciated. Unfortunately, it was not possible for applicant to get back to Examiner Thompson in a timely manner. However, it is noted that during the conversation with Examiner Thompson it was indicated that the case would be allowable if claims 17-20 and 33 were canceled. It is assumed that this is still the situation and thus allowance of the application in its present form is respectfully solicited. With respect to the canceled claims, it is noted that cancellation of these claims is not intended to indicate abandonment of the subject matter thereof and applicant, of course, reserves the right to pursue these claims in a divisional application.

Respectfully submitted,



By: Ross F. Hunt, Jr.
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